

**FUEL HAZARD REDUCTION EMERGENCY
DOCUMENTATION and DESCRIPTION CHECKLIST**
[ref: 14 CCR § 1052.4]]

This checklist may be used to assist an RPF preparing a Notice of Emergency for Fuel Hazard Reduction to meet the development, documentation, and description requirements of § 1052.4:

Emergency description:

Nature of emergency and need for immediate cutting (§ 1052.4): _____

Stand conditions:

Description of pre-harvest stand structure and post-harvest stocking levels (§ 1052.4(a)(1)): _____

Description of criteria to designate trees to be harvested or retained (§ 1052.4 (a)(2)): _____

☐ Leave or harvest trees will or have been marked by, or under supervision, of an RPF. (§ 1052.4(a)(3))

Method of designation: _____

☐ Leave or harvest trees will be sample marked, and the sample mark area shall include at least 10% of the harvest area to a maximum of 20 acres per stand type which is representative of the range of conditions present in the area. When sample making is used, the RPF shall include a written prescription describing how trees will be designated in the unmarked areas (1052.4(a)(3)):

☐ Post harvest stand will conform to U.S.F.S. PNW-51/52 photo series on at least 80% of the area, excluding WLPZs and other wildlife protection areas developed in accordance with 14 CCR § 1052.4(e)? (§ 1052.4(a)(4))

14 CCR §§ 1038(b)(1)-(10) Requirements (except for Lake Tahoe Basin) (§ 1052.4 (b)):

☐ (1) No tractor or heavy equipment operations on slopes greater than 50%.

☐ (2) No construction of new tractor roads on slopes greater than 40%.

☐ (3) Timber operations within any Special Treatment Area (STA), as defined in 14 CCR § 895.1, comply with rules associated with that STA.

☐ (4) No tractor or heavy equipment operations on known slides or unstable areas.

☐ (5) No new road construction or reconstruction, as defined in 14 CCR § 895.1.

☐ (6) No heavy equipment operations within the standard width of a WLPZ except for maintenance of roads and drainage facilities or structures.

☐ (7) No known sites of rare, threatened or endangered plants or animals will be disturbed, threatened or damaged.

☐ (8) No timber operations within the buffer zone of a sensitive species, as defined in 14 CCR § 895.1.

☐ (9) No timber harvesting within the standard width of a WLPZ except sanitation-salvage where immediately after completion of operations, the area meets the stocking standards of 14 CCR § 912.7 [932.7, 952.7](b)(2), or except the removal of dead or dying trees where consistent with 14 CCR § 916.4 [936.4, 956.4] (b). Trees to be harvested shall be marked by, or under the supervision of, an RPF prior to timber operations.

☐ (10) No timber operations on any site that satisfies the criteria listed in § 895.1 for a significant archaeological or historical site. Information on some of these sites may be available from the Information Centers of the California Historical Resources Information System within the Department of Parks and Recreation.

14 CCR §§ 1038(f)(1)-(14) Requirements within Lake Tahoe Basin (§ 1052.4 (b)):

☐ (1) Tree removal on high erosion hazard lands (Bailey's Land Capability Districts 1a, 1c, or 2 per Land Capability Classification of the Lake Tahoe Basin, California-Nevada: A Guide for Planning by R.G. Bailey, USDA Forest Service, 1974) shall only be conducted using the following methods: helicopter, over snow where no soil disturbance occurs, hand carry, and use of existing roads.

☐ (2) Tree removal in Stream Environment Zones ("SEZs", Bailey's Land Capability District 1b) and within the standard width of a WLPZ, as defined in 14 CCR § 895.1, shall be permitted as in the preceding section (f)(1).

(A) End-lining may also be used provided that soils are dry, all heavy equipment remains outside the SEZ or WLPZ, and site conditions are such that soils or vegetation will not be adversely affected and a discharge of earthen materials to surface waters, SEZs, or 100-year floodplains will not occur.

(B) Other low-impact tree removal methods may be used in SEZs and WLPZs if approved by the Lahontan RWQCB prior to submittal of the exemption notice to the Department. Certification of approval by the Lahontan RWQCB and TRPA shall be provided with the exemption notice to the Department. Low-impact tree removal methods means the use of techniques for vegetation management, including tree cutting or removal, designed to minimize impacts to the soils and vegetation. Such techniques shall minimize disruption of the soil surface (soil detachment), soil compaction, and damage to vegetation. Depending on the specific site conditions (e.g. soil type, soil conditions, slopes) and the method of operation, the use of low-ground pressure logging equipment, including but not limited to, certain harvesters and forwarders, may qualify.

(C) Heavy equipment operations may be used for maintenance of existing roads, maintenance of drainage facilities or structures, or skid crossings approved pursuant to (f)(9) below.

☐ (3) No tractor or heavy equipment (ground-based) operations on slopes greater than 30% except during over-snow operations that result in no soil disturbance.

☐ (4) No heavy equipment operations during the winter period, except for over-snow operations that result in no soil disturbance, or use of low-impact tree removal methods approved pursuant to (f)(2) above.

☐ (5) No new road construction or reconstruction, as defined in 14 CCR § 895.1.

☐ (6) No tractor or heavy equipment operations on known slides or unstable areas.

☐ (7) All cutting or removal of trees or other vegetation from within the standard width of a WLPZ shall meet the WLPZ standards of the Forest Practice Act and District Forest Practice Rules applicable to THPs, and be certified in writing by staff of the Lahontan RWQCB as complying with the soil protection and vegetation retention requirements of the Lahontan RWQCB's Basin Plan prior to submittal of the exemption notice to the Department. Trees to be harvested shall be marked by, or under the supervision of, an RPF prior to timber operations.

☐ (8) All Class III watercourses shall have at least 25-foot WLPZ.

☐ (9) No watercourse crossings of Class I or Class II watercourses except on existing bridges or existing culvert crossings. Any and all crossings proposed for Class III or Class IV watercourses shall be approved by staff of the Lahontan RWQCB and TRPA prior to operations.

☐ (10) No known sites of rare, threatened or endangered plants or animals will be disturbed, threatened or damaged.

☐ (11) No timber operations within the buffer zone of a sensitive species, as defined in 14 CCR § 895.1.

☐ (12) No timber operations on any site that satisfies the criteria listed in 14 CCR § 895.1 for a significant historical or archaeological site. Information on some of these sites may be available from the Information Centers of the California Historical Resources Information System within the Department of Parks and Recreation.

☐ (13) The landowner shall allow access to the property for inspections by staff of the Lahontan RWQCB and TRPA.

☐ (14) Timber operations within any Special Treatment Area, as defined in 14 CCR § 895.1, shall comply with the rules associated with Special Treatment Areas.

Geographic scope:

☐ Operations within ¼ mile of approved and legally permitted structures that comply with the California Building Code (legal structure) and within or adjacent to "...Communities at Risk" and have densities greater than 1 structure per 20 acres (§ 1052.4(c)(1))

Community at Risk name: _____

Operations within 500 feet of the following:

☐ Legal structures outside a "Community at Risk" described above (§ 1052.4(c)(2))

☐ Either side of a public or federal road (§ 1052.4(c)(3))

☐ Either side of a private road providing access to a legal structure (§ 1052.4 (c)(4))

☐ Either side of a mainline haul road identified by a public fire agency as necessary for fire suppression or evacuation and is approved by a public fire agency in a fire prevention plan, or otherwise approved by a public fire agency (§ 1052.4(c)(5))

Identify agency and fire plan designation, if applicable: _____

☐ Either side of ridges identified by a public fire agency as suitable for fire suppression and is approved by a public fire agency in a fire prevention plan, or otherwise approved by a public fire agency (§ 1052.4(c)(6))

Identify agency and fire plan designation, if applicable: _____

☐ Infrastructure facilities, such as transmission lines or towers or water conduits (§ 1052.4(c)(7))

Type of facility: _____

Vegetation treatments:

- ☐ Tree removal shall target understory trees. The residual stand shall consist primarily of healthy and vigorous dominant and codominant trees from the preharvest stand. Standards listed shall be met by retaining the largest diameter trees in the preharvest project area (§ 1052.4(d))
- ☐ Preharvest stand quadratic mean diameter of trees greater than 8" DBH is increased in the post harvest stand (§ 1052.4(d)(1))
- ☐ Maximum tree size to be removed is less than 24 inches outside bark stump diameter (§ 1052.4(d)(2))
- ☐ Maximum tree size to be removed is less than 30 inches outside bark stump diameter, because such removal is necessary to meet the fuel objectives stated in 14 CCR § 1052.1 (e) and the goal of fuel reduction cannot be achieved by removing trees less than 24 inches outside bark stump diameter (§ 1052.4(d)(2))

Reason why fuel reduction cannot be achieved by removing trees less than 24 inches stump diameter: _____

- ☐ Minimum post harvest canopy closure is 40% to 60 % varying by forest type and location (§ 1052.4(d)(3))

List forest type and intended canopy closure: _____

- ☐ Stocking shall meet commercial thinning requirement immediately after harvest (§ 1052.4(d)(4))
- ☐ Understory and surface fuels to be removed to achieve a distance of eight foot height to the base of the live crown (§ 1052.4(d)(5))
- ☐ Surface fuels to be treated within 120 days from start of operations to achieve a maximum four foot flame length, except if treated by burning which must be done by April 1 of the year following surface fuel creation (§ 1052.4(d)(6))

Surface fuel treatment method(s): _____

- ☐ Operations conducted concurrently in the same geographic area (ref. 14 CCR § 1052.4(c)) pursuant to 14 CCR § 1038(b) shall not remove diseased trees in excess of the diameter limit required under 14 CCR § 1052.4(d)(2) (§ 1052.4(f))

Habitat evaluation:

- ☐ Fish, wildlife, and plant species habitat considerations have been evaluated and incorporated into project in accordance with §§ 898.2, 916.9 9936.9, 956.9] and 919. Project design and implementation incorporates habitat requirements (snag/down logs, screening) and Natural Diversity Data Base review. (§ 1052.4(e))

Archeological requirements:

- ☐ Archeological requirements conducted by a certified person. (§ 1052(a)(10)(A))

RPF Signature: _____ **RPF No.** _____ **Date:** _____